



NIP-256

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

K. ANAZAWA et al

Serial No. 10/078,347

Group Art Unit: 2878

Filed: February 21, 2002

For: RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCE DECONTAMINATION METHOD AND APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

July 12, 2002

Sir:

Before examination on the merits, please amend the above application as follows.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Cancel the Abstract and replace with:

A radioactive substance decontamination method and apparatus which decontaminates a metal member contaminated by radioactive substance in a short period of time. This apparatus has (1) multiple reducing decontamination tanks having different radiation control values; (2) a carrier for immersing the metal member into the multiple reducing decontamination tanks and a washing tank; (3) a tube for transferring into the second reducing decontamination tank the reducing decontamination agent in the first reducing decontamination tank; (4) a reducing agent decomposer for

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